BPD-102US

Appln. No.: 10/563,659

Supplemental Preliminary Amendment Dated February 5, 2009

<u>Amendments to the Claims:</u> This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for the simultaneous and qualitative or quantitative determination of a plurality of analytes in a liquid sample, the device comprising:

a single membrane with

an application zone for the application of the liquid sample,

at least one group of at least two indicator zones, which are able to interact with the analytes, and

at least one absorption region which takes up the liquid after having passed the indicator zones,

wherein the indicator zones are located between the application zone and the <u>at least one</u> absorption region and are positioned on the membrane substantially parallel to each other and absent a physical separator between indicator zones.

- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the indicator zones are arranged in a W-, M-, or N-shape or a linear row.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the indicator zones comprise compounds selected from the group consisting of antibodies, antibody fragments, lectines, antigens, epitopes, cells, and cell fragments.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the indicator zones comprise antibodies or antibody fragments that specifically bind to a blood group antigen selected from the group consisting of A, B, AB, D, C, c, E, e, Cw, and K.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the membrane consists of polyethylene, nitrocellulose or nylon.

- 7. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein downstream of the application zone and upstream of the indicator zones at least one sealing element is provided on the membrane.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the device is positioned onto a support layer.
- 9. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the device is integrated in a casing.
- 10. (Withdrawn) Use of the device according to claim 1 for the analysis of blood group antigens or antigen epitopes.
- 11. (Withdrawn) Use of the device according to claim 1 for the simultaneous determination of A-, B-, AB-, D-, C, c-, E-, e, Cw- -blood group antigens, antigen epitopes, or mixtures thereof.
- 12. (Withdrawn) A method for the determination of a plurality of analytes or their derivatives in a liquid sample, the method comprising:

applying a liquid sample comprising a plurality of analytes or their derivatives onto the application zone of the membrane of the device according to claim 1, wherein this sample is present in an adequate amount to induce the test liquid to flow in the direction of the absorption region through the indicator zones and to induce the analytes or their derivatives in the liquid sample to form a complex in the indicator zones.

- 13. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 12, wherein the analytes are blood group antigens or antigen epitopes.
- 14. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 12, wherein the analytes comprise A-, B-, AB-, D-, C, c-, E-, e, Cw or K-blood group antigens, antigen epitopes, or mixtures thereof.
- 15. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 12, wherein the analytes A-, B-, AB-, D-, C, c-, E-, e, Cw or K-blood group antigens, antigen epitopes, or mixtures thereof are detected simultaneously.

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- 16. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 12, wherein the indicator particles are erythrocytes.
- 17. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 12, wherein the membrane after the application of indicator particles is rinsed.
- 18. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17 wherein the rinsing liquor is hypo-osmotic.
- 19. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 12, wherein the liquid sample comprises blood or blood components.
- 20. (Currently Amended) A device for the simultaneous and qualitative or quantitative determination of a plurality of analytes in a liquid sample, the device comprising:

## a single membrane with

an application zone for the application of the liquid sample,

at least one group of at least two indicator zones, which are able to interact with the analytes, and

at least one absorption region which takes up the liquid after having passed the indicator zones,

wherein the indicator zones are located between the application zone and the <u>at least one</u> absorption region and at least two indicator zones are positioned on the membrane diagonal to each other and absent a physical separator between indicator zones.

- 21. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 20, wherein the indicator zones are arranged in a diagonal V-, W-, M-, or N-shape.
- 22. (New) The device according to claim 1, comprising at least two groups of indicator zones and at least two absorption regions, wherein the application zone is positioned in the central region of the membrane.
- 23. (New) The device according to claim 20, comprising at least two groups of indicator zones and at least two absorption regions, wherein the application zone is positioned in the central region of the membrane.